

Serial No. 09/035,708

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Please cancel claims 15, 18, 25 and 30.

D2 Aug 2 Claim 17 (three times amended). A method according to Claim 14 wherein said axonally-derived protein is a fragment of said tau protein of SEQ ID NO:1 demonstrating an apparent molecular weight in the range of about 30 kDa to about 50 kDa.

D3 Jul 3 Claim 24 (three times amended). A method according to Claim 23 wherein said axonally-derived protein bound to said at least one monoclonal antibody is a fragment of tau protein SEQ ID NO:1 which is detected through gel electrophoresis and which gives rise to an electrophoresis gel demonstrating multiple protein bands with apparent molecular weights from about 30 kDa to about 50 kDa.

Jul 34 Claim 31 (amended). A method of determining axonal damage in the central nervous system of a patient suspected of having traumatic central nervous system injury, said method comprising the steps of:

- D4
- (a) obtaining a sample of cerebrospinal fluid from said patient;
 - (b) treating said sample of cerebrospinal fluid with at least one monoclonal antibody, said at least one monoclonal antibody having been raised against an axonally-derived protein in the form of an isoform of tau protein of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (c) detecting the presence of said axonally-derived protein bound to said at least one monoclonal antibody; and
 - (d) comparing the amount of said axonally-derived protein bound to said at least one monoclonal antibody in step (c) to control samples selected from the group representing a normal undamaged axon state and those representing an axonal damage state.

add E1
A version of these claims showing the specific amendments made herein is attached.